Sermon Handout

Unquenchable Light John 1:1-5

I. "In the Beginning" vv. 1-3

- a. Eternity past (before the creation of the heavens & the earth) See Prov 8:22-26 (LXX)
- b. The pre-existence of the Second Person

Three statements in v. 1

The Word existed in the beginning

The Word existed with God (repeated in v. 2)

The Word existed as God

c. Jesus is the active agent in creation 1:1 *cf*. Gen 1:3; Ps 33:6 *Affirmed* in Col 1:16-17; Heb 1:2

II. "The Light of Men" vv. 4-5

a. His life is the light of men v. 4 cf. v. 14

Pre-incarnate and in the incarnation cf. Gen 1:3

The first recorded creative act was to make light

- b. The Light & Darkness motif in creation
 - i. Gen 1:3-4 and Jn 1:9-10 the source of all light is not recognized
 - ii. The true light cannot be put out (overcome) Jn 1:5; I Jn 1:5
- c. Declared to be the "Light of Men" v. 4
 - i. Light & darkness in men's lives I Jn 1:5-6; Prov 4:19
 - ii. Why men reject the Light (they love sin) Jn 3:19; Rom 1:21
 - iii. Men in Christ are drawn to the Light Jn 3:20-21; I Jn 1:5-10

III. Lessons for the Church

- a. Deity of Christ essential to the Gospel (Jn 1; Col 1; Heb 1 et al.)
- b. Light manifest in grace is irresistible see Jn 1:9-13 cf. II Cor 4:3-4
- c. Genuine Christian faith aligns with the truth of darkness & light
 - i. "If we say . . ." I Jn 1:6-7
 - ii. "If we say . . ." I Jn 1:8-9
 - iii. "If we say . . ." I Jn 1:10